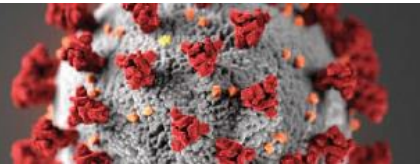




CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS



Friday, March 6, 5:00 p.m.

Overview

-The City of Fort Lauderdale continues to actively monitor the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. We are maintaining close contact with Broward County, state and local health officials, and representatives from the healthcare, transportation, travel, and hospitality industries.

-The City participated in a press conference today with the Broward County Mayor and Commissioners, the Director of the Florida Department of Health in Broward County, and representatives from the Port, Airport, School Board, Broward Health and Memorial Healthcare, to update residents and visitors with the latest information on the Coronavirus and communicate a unified and coordinated response.

-There are currently no Coronavirus cases in Broward County and the immediate threat to the public remains low.

-The City of Fort Lauderdale currently has no plans to cancel any events. Our St. Patrick's Parade and Festival and the inaugural home opener for Inter Miami CF, both of which are taking place on Saturday, March 14, continue to move forward as planned.

-City staff in cooperation with event promoters, Police, Fire Rescue, and public safety personnel are working to implement additional precautionary measures to minimize the spread of germs. These include making sure there are additional hand-washing and hand-sanitizing stations at events, as well as additional cleaning and maintenance staff. We remind everyone, however, to please use common sense. If you are feeling ill, please stay home so you do not infect others.

-As we are in one of our busiest travel seasons of the year, the City of Fort Lauderdale remains in contact with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau and leaders from our hotel and hospitality industry to ensure that messages about preventative steps visitors can take are being communicated on a regular and consistent basis.

-From a facilities standpoint, the City is making an extra effort to clean and disinfect buildings and work areas, particularly those with high public use. We are making sure to have extra supplies of hand sanitizer, additional soap for restrooms, and asking our building maintenance staff to frequently clean and wipe down counters, door handles, light switches, elevators, and other public areas.

-Public safety is our top priority, and given the Coronavirus is a rapidly changing situation, the City of Fort Lauderdale stands ready to adjust its planning and response accordingly should future conditions warrant, including having emergency responses plan in place that will be implemented in cooperation with local, state and federal agencies and authorities.

-We encourage everyone to remain vigilant, continue to monitor developments, practice proper hygiene and healthy habits, and keep things in proper perspective. According to health officials, if you are not in an area where Coronavirus is spreading, or have not travelled from an area where Coronavirus is spreading, or have not been in contact with an infected patient, your risk of infection is low.

Coronavirus Cases in Florida

- According to the Florida Department of Health, there are currently four confirmed cases of Coronavirus in Florida – two in Hillsborough County, one in Manatee County, and one in Santa Rosa County.

-Five other Floridians, all of whom recently returned from China, are being isolated in other states.

-55 test results have come back negative. Test results for an additional 51 tests are pending.

-To date, health officials have monitored approximately 981 people in Florida for symptoms of coronavirus and are currently monitoring 264 people.

How Does Coronavirus Spread?

Coronavirus can spread from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth, including when an individual coughs or sneezes. These droplets may land on objects and surfaces. Other people may contract Coronavirus by touching these objects or surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth.

Symptoms of Coronavirus

Symptoms of Coronavirus appear within two to 14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, runny nose and difficulty breathing.

Prevention

The CDC recommends taking everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs and infection, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then throw the tissue in the trash immediately.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- If you have fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, please seek medical attention.

- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).

Travel

For the latest information on travel information, alerts and warnings, please visit the [CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#) website.

Fort Lauderdale International Airport and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is monitoring passengers arriving into the facility and looking for anyone displaying Coronavirus symptoms. If displaying, they may detain/isolate the passenger(s) and will contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to handle. They will also look at a passenger's travel history but if they are not displaying, they are not detained.

Port Everglades

The cruise lines are requiring all passengers to complete a health declaration form prior to being allowed to board a cruise. While each cruise line's policies vary, each has applied a combination of denial of boarding for crew and passengers originating from certain locations around the world, and mandatory health screening for passengers originating from other locations. The Port website has links to the cruise lines' policies and is the best source for the most current information at www.porteverglades.net through the link at the lower left of the homepage. There is no separate screening for debarking passengers beyond observation by CBP.

Should I be tested for Coronavirus?

-If you are concerned that you have been exposed to Coronavirus, please call the Florida Department of Health in Broward County at **954-412-7300** and your healthcare provider before traveling to any healthcare facility.

For More Information

-The Florida Department of Health has established a dedicated Coronavirus Call Center at **1-866-779-6121** that is available 24 hours a day seven days a week, as well as a dedicated email address at COVID-19@flhealth.gov which the public can use for questions or clarifications on issues related to the Coronavirus.

For additional information regarding Coronavirus, please visit www.floridahealth.gov or www.cdc.gov or www.fortlauderdale.gov/coronavirus.

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